

REMARKS

The Applicants hereby submit an Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 for the above-referenced patent continuation application which has been issued a Notice of Allowance mailed on 19 January 2005.

The Applicants respectfully request consideration and entry of this Amendment. In the present Amendment, the Applicants wish to *add new dependent claims 41-51*. The Applicants note that under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 cannot be demanded as a matter of right. However, the amendment submitted herewith is needed for proper protection of the invention and requires no substantial amount of additional work on part of the Office.

(A) Why The Amendment Is Needed. The Applicants submit that the amendment is needed to add new *dependent* claims 41-51 in order to ensure adequate protection of the invention disclosed in the specification. After filing the application with claims 21-40, the patent application was immediately issued a Notice Of Allowance before the Applicants had any opportunity to provide any additional claims.

(B) Why The Proposed New Claims Require No Additional Search Or Examination. The Applicants submit that the new claims 41-51 require no additional search or examination since they are all *dependent claims* based on *previously allowed independent claims 21, 30, and 38*. Each new dependent claim of claims 41-51 is *narrower* than its corresponding independent claim.

(C) Why The Claims Are Patentable. The Applicants submit that new claims 41-51 are patentable because they *all depend from previously allowed independent claims 21, 30, and 38* and are *narrower in scope* than their corresponding independent claims.

(D) Why The New Claims Were Not Presented Earlier. The Applicants submit that the new claims 41-51 were not presented earlier because, after filing the present application with claims 21-40, the patent application was immediately issued a Notice Of Allowance before the Applicants had any opportunity to provide any additional claims. The Applicants are individual inventors who do not have significant resources as larger companies do, and additional claims can be costly and costs need to be spread out over time.

Since the Applicants have sufficiently shown that the amendment is needed for proper protection of the invention and requires no substantial amount of additional work on part of the Office, the Applicants wishes the entry of this Amendment and consideration of new claims 41-51 in connection therewith.

Thank you. Please feel free to contact the undersigned for any reason if it would expedite the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully Submitted,



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